country's image. So, I request the Minister to be present when a Special Mention in this regard is taken up so that hon. Members can participate and make concrete suggestions. ...*(Interruptions)*... Some action has to be taken against the persons concerned immediately. ...*(Interruptions)*... Nobody can blame the Minister. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री खान गुफ़रान ज़ाहिदी: सभापति जी, आपके फैसले के बाद भी खड़े हो रहे हैं। ... **(व्यवधान)**...

श्री एम० वेंकैया नायडु: मेरी रिक्वेस्ट यह होगी कि जो मैंने नोटिस दिया है इस पर, मंत्री जी मौजूद रहें तो अच्छा होगा। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (DR. MANMOHAN SINGH): The safety standards and their deterioration not only at our airports but also in the railway system of our country are a matter of deep public concern. They are causing anxiety to large sections of our population. I think there should be a structured debate on this issue. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Utilisation of Funds Allocated to the State Governments

*224. SHRI V.P. DURAISAMY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government are allocating funds to the State Governments for the purpose of building roads, schools and providing drinking water facilities to the poor;

(b) how many State Governments have diverted funds from the above mentioned works to other works;

(c) how many State Government have utilised the funds genuinely for the above works and asked for more funds to implement the above works vigorously; and

(d) whether there was any demand from the Tamil Nadu Government in this connection; and if so, what was the reaction of the Central Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir. The Central Government is providing additional Central Assistance (ACA) to States under the BMS programme since 1996-97. The objective of the programme is to provide the States with additional resources for achieving complete coverage in seven areas in a time bound manner. The seven services are primary health, primary education, safe drinking water, shelter for shelterless poor, connectivity to all villages and habitation, nutrition and streamlining of the public distribution system with a focus on the poor.

(b) The funds for basic minimum services including ACA are earmarked in the plans of each State Government and the State Governments report utilisation of the earmarked funds. Ministry of Finance is not aware of any diversion of funds.

(c) Provision of basic minimum services lies within the purview of the State Governments. The Central Government supplements the effort of the State Governments both through specific Centrally Sponsored Schemes and since 1996-97 through provision of Additional Central Assistance for BMS. The amount allocated for BMS is as under:

Year	(Rs. in crores)
1996-97	2244
1997-98	2970
1998-99	3410
1999-2000	3700

The State Governments are required to make a Minimum Adequate Provision (MAP) in their State Plans as estimated by the Planning Commission. While some State Governments provide more than the MAP in their State Plan they are required to provide and utilise the MAP amount. As per the details given in Statement, most State Governments have been able to utilise the BMS funds for this purpose. (*see* below).

(d) There has been no demand from the Government of Tamil Nadu to increase the allocation of ACA under BMS.

Statement

Utilisation of Funds for Basic Minimum Services (BMS) 1998-99

(Rs. in lakhs)

States	Allocation 1998-99	MAP 1998-99	Expenditure 1998-99	Expenditure % of MAP (1998-99)
Andhra Pradesh	40052.15	40052.15	37446.65	93.49
Arunachal Pradesh	14604.00	15964.93	13702.26	85.83
Assam	34639.00	38810.00	36414.66	93.83
Bihar	66649.00	64198.00	81436.46	126.85
Goa	4473.00	4472.95	5395.37	120.62
Gujarat	60080.31	33039.01	56005.99	169.51
Haryana	11385.00	11209.17	10251.38	91.46
Himachal Pradesh	27723.91	26159.31	29313.14	112.06
J & K	38899.41	33491.00	30833.52	92.07
Karnataka	80600.42	67638.20	88157.00	130.34
Kerala	19173.00	18642.75	19319.76	103.63
Madhya Pradesh	59685.97	55513.50	50607.90	91.16
Maharashtra	152548.00	83267.30	129841.98	155.93
Manipur	10382.00	10382.54	7564.00	72.85
Meghalaya	10373.00	9620.69	10260.66	106.65
Mizoram	9740.89	9739.89	9740.55	100.01
Nagaland	7711.00	7495.99	5235.00	69.84
Orissa	40995.60	43834.65	22026.15	50.25
Punjab	17591.32	9006.10	10688.53	118.68
Rajasthan	71949.00	70955.24	52813.93	74.43
Sikkim	8167.11	8166.40	7655.23	93.74
Tamil Nadu	53643.80	35067.95	56070.30	159.89
Tripura	11841.00	11840.85	12753.27	107.71
Uttar Pradesh	149400.00	149332.85	168180.00	112.62
West Bengal	33752.00	33555.90	33752.00	100.59
Total:	**1036059.89**	**891457.32**	**985465.69**	